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An Independent Newspaper. By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

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HOME NEWS WHILE AWAY. Subscribers of the State Journal away from home during the summer may have the paper mailed regularly each day...

In view of the fact that it was the esteemed pastor of an Emporia church who landed a 55-pound catfish out of the Neosho river the other day, the story may be accepted as true and there is no need to take the weight of the fish with a grain of salt or two.

Probably the most annoying feature of the official weather reports issued by the federal government is the one that tells daily of the lowest temperature record established on a previous day and corresponding date.

"It has been my experience," observed Mr. Humble Citizen recently, "that not all of the 'good fishing' heronboats to which one's friends are so keen and kind to put a man 'next' is of the well-known 'good-for-nothing' variety."

From time immemorial, it has been generally agreed that "the meanest thief" is the one who steals pennies from a blind man's alms' cup.

However, the chigger victim will try anything once and a million different things, if he can hear about them, in search of relief from his terrible sufferings.

And so said victim will probably be delighted to know that the experts of the federal department of agriculture have evolved some chigger remedies which, of course, are being passed out free to a long-suffering public.

Nor is there any reason why these remedies should not be the real thing. For many years now, the people of this nation that is so great in all particulars, with the exception of its attitude towards the Mexican situation which is permitting the poor peons in northern Mexico to starve to death at the rate of fifty and more a day...

And, incidentally, they couldn't devote their energies to anything that would be as good or more gratifying to the people who are putting up the good money for their pay-checks than to fathom out ways and means to render the chigger hors de combat and with precision and dispatch.

There must be something worth while in the oil prospects in the immediate neighborhood of Topeka, else the agents of the Standard Oil company would not be paying much attention to them.

Undoubtedly, the soldiers of France cut a considerable figure in creating the premises on which Germany reached her decision to give up her plan to take Verdun. And this possibly means that the operations

around Verdun constitute the last of the major offensives that Germany will be able to make no matter how long the European struggle may continue. Germany is now on the defensive on all the battle fronts, and the Allies are claiming that their drives and pushes have not yet reached their maximum force.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S INFLUENCE. The World's Work for August in rehashing the political situation pays this tribute to Theodore Roosevelt: "The issues of the campaign are much the better for the colonel's activities. The largest single awakening force has been Theodore Roosevelt. For his awakening activity the American public should be grateful to him."

CHIGGER RELIEF, AT LAST. At any rate, no weather of any kind could be more advantageous and satisfactory in every way than the present variety for the operations of His Extreme Nuisance, Mr. Chigger, or maybe it is only the lady chiggers who bite, bugs being as peculiar in their characteristics as are humans.

But this is just the sort of weather that gives the chigger such strength and adds so to his courage that he is in perfect and ravenous trim to get in his delicate work on the anatomy of every man, woman or child, who is so unwary as to tread even lightly on his parched lair of withered grass.

And how he revels and how industriously he piles his trade and his pleasure on those careless souls who imagine they can find succor from the heat by lugging baskets of grub-sacks of ice and even ice cream freezers to some tree-shaded spot in the wildwood for that distressing function, the picnic.

This is, indeed, chigger weather par excellence. In such an oasis in the desert to the sand-suffocated traveler and his weary, if sober camel, or like the straw in mid-ocean for the shipwrecked sailor to grasp, come some moments of respite from an authoritatively scientific source.

Reports from Western Kansas are to the effect that the wheat testers, the brass cups made for testing wheat are being used in record numbers this year. The testers are gauged to test wheat of a maximum weight of 48 pounds to the bushel, but a great deal of this year's wheat—and the same wheat that was going to be such a failure not so many weeks ago—is weighing as high as sixty-seven pounds to the bushel.

And this, which is presented by the Lawrence Courier, is an undeniably true of many other localities in Kansas: One of the greatest wonders in the world is the fact that men with real, independent propensities find it so hard to put it over while money seems to flow into the coffers of fake names. Enough money has been lost in the past by Lawrence investors which, if invested in Lawrence, would not only have made its owners wealthy but would have made Lawrence the largest and most thriving city in the state.

Musings of the Village Deacon, in the Osborn Columnar. You wouldn't hear so much about letting the people rule if votes were not in such demand by the "outs."

Can you equal it? Who has more influence over the boy who spends his time away from home than his boy companions? We all know the answer to that, and a sad answer it often is.

Who, then, is going to have the greatest influence on the boys? Their companions, of course, who are in this case those who love them best. But this didn't take up the subject to prove a point which was the axion (interfering friends to the contrary). I've just mentioned it as an introduction to the picture of her home life, which my letter friend has given me.

Here it is: I have two boys, 12 and 14 years of age. The younger is a great reader. We have always tried to give him the best of books; his father reads the same books and makes him read, and try to keep up with his reading.

QUAKER MEDITATIONS. [From the Philadelphia Record.] It's all right to give the devil his due, but don't over-pay him.

It is better to get the reputation of being as quick as lightning than as slow as a snail.

It is better to throw your whole soul into your work than to merely put your foot in it.

Before casting your bread upon the water it is just as well to be sure the water isn't polluted.

You never can tell. A man may start at the bottom of the ladder and still be above suspicion.

A supersaturated solution of bicarbonate of soda or common cooking

soda or saleratus will afford relief. Liberal applications should be made until the irritation subsides.

ON SPUR OF THE MOMENT. BY ROY K. MOLLTON. The folders that brought, we've read with visions of delight, we've sat about the study lamp and taken long trances to night, we've traveled mentally, by sea and on the road of anarchy.

IN PICTURED FANCY we have roamed about the famous Yellowstone, and in our minds, we've found the guide declining through his megaphone, and all that we see is just stand waiting to be shown.

JOURNAL ENTRIES. Sticking to it is the best way of getting there. * * * Simplicity is more charming when it isn't simulated. * * * Your opinions are good only until somebody presents better ones.

JAYHAWKER JOTS. Some fellows are so narrow-contracted, as the Downs News and orator says, that if a ball doesn't end as they expected, they say it was "fixed."

Uncle Abner. Hank Ruff has his boots half-soled with a beefsteak that his daughter cooked for him last week. She has been taking correspondence school course in culinary art.

There ain't no feller who kin be more pleasanter and solicitous about your health than the one who is about to ask you to endorse a note for him.

Side Talks. BY RUTH CAMERON. Her Friends' (?) Advice. A letter friend is in a queer quandary. She is the mother of two boys, whom she has tried to bring up to be the best of her ability.

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UP-TO-DATE ADVICE. Save the paper napkins when you picnic in the park. Your old waste paper can will be the paper prices going up, forests coming down.

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AND IT'S SUCH FINE WEATHER FOR SWIMMING!



veranda. She glanced at her card. "This is with Arthur," she said. "I must tell him."

"And the next is 'Auf Wiedersehen.'" "Yes," she answered, "the next is our dance." She laid her hand on his arm. "Good-bye, dear," she whispered. "I'll meet again," he returned.

DINNER STORIES

The superintendent of the Cincinnati zoo was making arrangements to feed the twenty-seven-foot python and needed men to hold the reptile during the repast. His advertisement was answered by a serious-looking negro.



"What we want," said the zoo guard, "is a strong, husky chap to help hold the big snake while we feed him. The negro's jaw dropped, his eyes stuck out like golf balls and he gasped. 'Ye—ye' want a man to do what?'"

"Jack proposed to me last night," said the girl in blue. "Better and wiser," whispered Mother to her companion. "Of course you accepted him?"

"I do, but I shall never marry him," said the girl in blue. "Well, you know, Jack lives at home, and his mother is the best cook for miles around. I'm sure he'd never be able to eat anything I prepared. The man I marry must be one who has lived in a boarding house long enough to know that anything outside of prunes and hash will taste good to him."

In the slums a certain rent collector had great difficulty in getting money from one Dennis Clancy. On being applied to for a couple of weeks' rent Dennis said that he would put in a new cellar door. This was done and the collector called for the money. Dennis was out, but his eldest son paid the money that was due.

"Glad you have it ready for once," said the collector. "Well, there it is," said the boy. Cloud kindly: "better be glad for what you have! For, you see, if you go down to earth, a lot of other raindrops will be all wet and the children will have to go into the houses and they won't like that—not a little bit!"

So the one little lone round raindrop didn't wish any more—if he did, he drew—lots of children and they were having a beautiful time!

And the great big winds blew, and the great big cloud sailed across the sky, so hurry-scurry fast that there was always something new to see. Suddenly the cloud dropped lower, and what do you suppose that one little lone round raindrop saw? You'd never guess!

He saw a playground full of children, a whole playground full! And he was so excited he forgot all about being careful not to fall and all that. He called to all the other raindrops. "Look! Look! Look! There are children—lots of children and they're having a beautiful time!"

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

The Table. Peanut Sandwiches—Grind the nuts in chopper, mix with sour cream salad dressing and spread on thin slices of buttered white bread.

Nut Sandwiches—Thin slices of wheat flour cut circular and buttered. The filling should be made of chopped, roasted and salted peanuts mixed with sufficient mayonnaise to spread easily.

Peanut Butter Sandwiches—Mix the amount of peanut butter required with an equal amount of water, stirring until they are thoroughly mixed. Season with salt, pepper and lemon juice to taste and spread thin slices of bread with the mixture and roll a lettuce leaf in each sandwich and cut into any desired shape.

Cheap Angel Food—One rounded glass of flour, one of glass granulated sugar, one glass milk scalded (not boiled), two teaspoons baking powder, whites of two eggs beaten stiff, one spoonful lemon essence. Stir flour, baking powder and sugar together four times, then add milk a little at a time until well mixed. Flavor and gently fold in beaten whites of eggs. Bake in moderate oven thirty minutes. Do not open oven door till cake has been in fifteen minutes.

Cakes and Idioms. Chocolate Cake (without eggs)—Two cups granulated sugar, one pint milk, one-half cup lard, one-half teaspoon cloves, one-half teaspoon nutmeg, two teaspoons cinnamon, one tablespoon cocoa, three tablespoons New Orleans molasses, one teaspoon soda dissolved in little water, three cups flour. Cream sugar, stir well, add milk and, lastly, add soda dissolved, then the flour. Bake in three large layers and put together with any good icing.

Tutti-Frutti Cake—Two cups brown sugar, one-half cup butter, some eggs well beaten, three teaspoons

Bed Time Tales. BY CLARA INGRAM JUDSON. THE RAINDROPS HAVE A SPILL. One little lone round raindrop sat on the tip of a leaf of a great big tree at the world below. He saw forests and rivers and cities and plains; and he dropped jolly fun! said another. "I think I'd rather play in the sand," said another thoughtfully; "it looks like the most fun of all!"

"I wish I could see more," said the one little lone round raindrop all to himself. "I wish I could get down there and see for myself all the wonderful things I can only get a glimpse of—that's what I wish!"

Better and wiser," whispered Mother to her companion. "Of course you accepted him?" "I do, but I shall never marry him," said the girl in blue. "Well, you know, Jack lives at home, and his mother is the best cook for miles around. I'm sure he'd never be able to eat anything I prepared. The man I marry must be one who has lived in a boarding house long enough to know that anything outside of prunes and hash will taste good to him."

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cinnamon, one-half teaspoon allspice, one-half teaspoon cloves, one-half of grated nutmeg, one cup buttermilk, three cups flour, one teaspoon soda, 1 1/2 cups raisins put in the boiled frosting.

Cold Icing for Cake—One and one-half cups powdered sugar, one tablespoon butter, white of one egg beaten thick, one cup sugar and water in pan and stir to prevent sugar from adhering to saucpan. Heat slowly to boiling point and boil without stirring until sugar will thread when dropped from tip of spoon. Pour syrup gradually on beaten whites of eggs, beating all the time. Beat until right consistency to spread, then add flavoring and put over cake. If not beaten long enough, frosting will run. If beaten too long, add a few drops of lemon or boiling water.

Pickled Crab Apples. Seven pounds whole apples, four pounds sugar, two cups vinegar, one cup cream butter and sugar and. Boil until apples are tender, then remove, boil syrup down and pour over.

A Simple Ice Cream. Put one quart milk in double boiler; when boiling add one scant cup flour, one cup sugar and with little milk and beaten yolks of two eggs. Stir constantly until it thickens; set on back of stove for a few moments. When cold or ready to freeze add one cup sugar, one teaspoon vanilla, one pint cream; last, add beaten whites of two eggs and freeze. This recipe makes two quarts of ice cream.

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And then of course all the other raindrops came a-buzzing and a-scurrying over to where the one little lone round raindrop sat and they, too, saw the playground full of children, and they, too, exclaimed and oh-ed and

And just then—what do you suppose happened? All those little raindrops crowded so close, so very close to the edge of the rain cloud, that—it tipped right over! Yes, it tipped right over and slipped them all down into the middle of that playground where they were waiting to go! Think of that!

Cloud; but she was too late with her warning, the raindrops were gone, was such a sudden shower, they were the middle of a sunny afternoon. (Copyright—Clara Ingram Judson.)